ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Date Issued: July 16, 2013 Time: 5:00 pm

UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 11 EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-12-13

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 11 opens drift gillnetting in the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict (Figure 1) from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2013.

The optimal escapement goal (OEG) for Kasilof River sockeye salmon is 160,000–390,000 fish. The cumulative passage estimate through 12:00 noon on July 16 is approximately 310,000 fish and projected to exceed 500,000 fish, which is above the OEG. In the Kenai River, the inriver (sonar) goal is 1,000,000–1,200,000 fish. The most current estimate of passage through 12:00 noon on July 16 is approximately 350,000 fish. On average, sockeye salmon escapement into the Kenai River is 14%–15% complete through July 15.

Commercial fishing is occurring in the area described above in order to slow the rate of escapement of sockeye salmon to both the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers, and to minimize the harvest of Kenai River late-run king salmon.

Drifters are reminded that drift gillnetting may not occur within one mile of the mean high tide mark north of the Kenai River and within one and one-half miles of the mean high tide mark south of the Kenai River when fishing with set gillnets is closed in these areas.

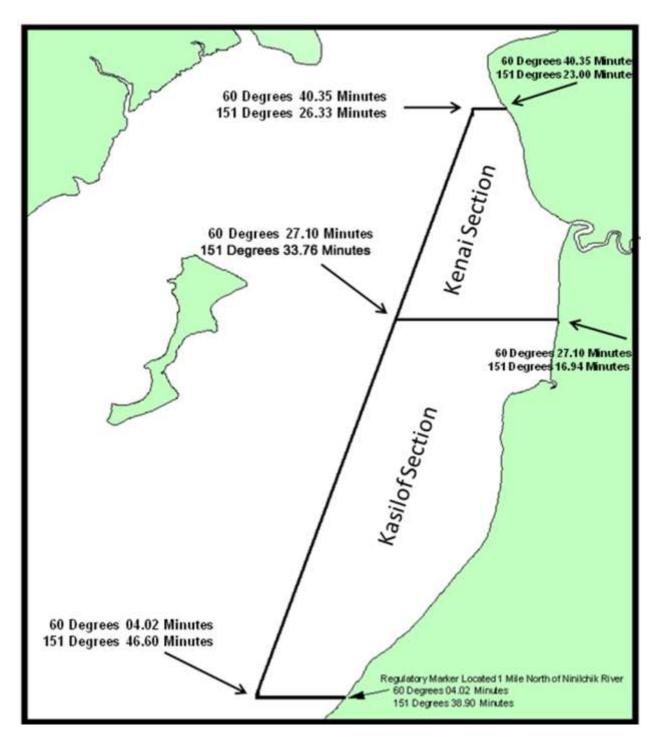


Figure 1. Map of the Expanded Kasilof and Expanded Kenai Corridors with waypoints.